



File Code: 2230

Date: May 13, 2002

Salmon River Ranches, LTD
C/o Eric Matson
P. O. Box 1101
Challis, ID 83226

Dear Eric,

This letter will serve as your Annual Operation Instructions for the Lime Creek C&H Allotment for the 2002 grazing season and should be considered an extension of the Lime Creek C&H Permit # 20027.

I. Authorized Use

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	Head Months
Rich Schowengerdt	190 Cow/Calf	Term	5/25 – 10/15	900

II. Pasture Rotation

Pasture	Number	Season	Head Months
Gooseberry (BLM)	190	5/25 – 7/1	237
Hole in the Rock	190	7/2 – 8/3	207
Seven	190	8/4 – 9/4	200
Hole in the Rock	190	9/5 – 10/15	256
Crane Basin	190	Rest	0

Total 900

Utilization of herbaceous forage will not exceed 50% current growth on upland sites; Riparian areas should retain a minimum of 4" of stubble on herbaceous use vegetation by the end of the growing season. Woody browse use will not exceed 50% of new leader production.

The move-on date is only a guide since the on-date will be when range readiness occurs. Move dates should be within three days of the listed dates unless forage utilization indicates that moves need to be made earlier. Longer stays can be arranged if an excess forage condition exists. Please call the Range Specialists at least one week before the listed move date. Distribute cattle over the entire pasture being used and make a concerted effort to use all grazable areas in a pasture. Please realize that it is in your best interest to keep cattle distributed throughout the pasture being used. Cattle will be moved out of a pasture when forage use in riparian and upland areas are at grazing standards. If cattle are allowed to concentrate in riparian areas and water developments without being pushed to unused areas, the grazing capacity of the pasture is



diminished to those areas only. Use of riparian areas need to be carefully monitored. The range personnel will monitor forage use in areas where cattle concentrate. Your rider needs to push the cattle out of these areas at least three times a week or more. The move-off date is the date you must have your cattle off of the grazing allotment, not the day to start moving cattle off of the allotment. If you move on to the allotment late and want to stay past your move-off date, then you must make arrangements earlier in the grazing season. Staying past your move-off date is mostly contingent on utilization standards and if forage production permits longer time.

Place salt in areas where past and or present forage use is light. Salt should be used to spread utilization across the pasture being grazed. If possible, place salt at least a ¼ mile from riparian areas. Salt should be picked up and moved when an area has been sufficiently used. If possible, do not place salt in the same footprint areas used last year. Contact the Range Specialist if you need suggestions. The permittee is responsible for using water and salt to achieve the best distribution of cattle throughout the pasture.

Any carcass or animals remains will be moved at least 100 yards from live water, trails and roads. Animal carcasses in highly visible areas need to be relocated to more remote areas. Dead or sick animals receive close public scrutiny and should be dealt with quickly.

Range improvements must be maintained prior to placing cattle in a pasture. Improvements should be maintained as needed. Fences will be checked and maintained before cattle enter a pasture. They should be kept to a standard of repair, which is functional, safe, and acceptable to the Forest Service. Any plans to reconstruct or build new improvements on the forest should first be coordinated with the Range Specialist. Improvements are listed in your grazing permit and are shown on the allotment map.

No ground disturbing activities should be conducted on the forest by the permittee or their personnel without approval from the Range Specialist or other District staff. Under the Cultural Resource Settlement, costs to correct a damaged cultural site will be billed to the person who caused the damage. Ground disturbances can no longer be permitted, accepted, or allowed to occur on National Forest lands with out prior, proper clearance.

Grazing fees must be paid before livestock can be turned on the forest. Please notify the Leading Range Specialist, Terry Nevius 208-879-4100 before cattle are turned on the forest. Cattle move on counts may be conducted on randomly selected allotments this year. Brands will be checked periodically throughout the grazing seasons.

Range Inspections will be made several times during the grazing season to check maintenance of range improvements, forage utilization and compliance with the grazing rotation and standard requirements. You will be invited to participate in all inspections conducted on the allotment. We will try to contact you a few days in advance to let you know when we will be looking at your allotment. Please realize we are not out to police your allotment but livestock grazing is under close public scrutiny.

Because of increasing public use, gates are often left open and cattle stray in to the wrong pasture. I realize this is a problem and an inconvenience. However, it is still the permittee's responsibility to keep their animals in the proper unit. Cattle in the wrong pasture should be removed and returned to the correct pasture within seven days of notification by phone or letter.

Early use or repeated use of grazing units could result in an early move-off date. Routine checks need to be made by you and your rider. This is a requirement of your term grazing permit.

I have enclosed a Year End Grazing Report for you to record Actual Use data for the 2002 grazing season. You need to record the date and number of cattle turned on to the allotment, the dates the cattle are moved to and from each pasture on the rotation, and the number of cattle removed from the allotment. Accurate records of these dates should be kept. In addition, please record labor and cost associated with maintaining the improvements on your allotment. These records will be requested the end of the season. The Forest Service uses these records to help allocate Range Betterment Funds. These funds are used to purchase materials for improvement. A small cache of materials is available in Challis for improvement maintenance. Please contact the Range Specialist on availability of such materials.

If you have any questions concerning these Annual Operating Instructions, please call Terry Nevius in Challis at 208-879-4100. Prior approval by the District Ranger is required to amend or change these instructions. We are looking forward to the grazing season and hope it will be productive.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Mike Foster*

MIKE FOSTER
District Ranger

Cc: Peggy Redick, Challis Field Office, BLM, HC63, Box 1670 Challis ID 83226
Rich Schowengerdt, HC 63, Box 1760, Challis ID 83226